

Substitute for form 1449/PTO			Complete if Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/828,469-Conf. #5223	
			Filing Date	April 21, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	Michael D. Laufer	
			Art Unit	3773	
			Examiner Name	J. W. Woo	
Sheet	1	of	22	Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA*	US-4,144,890	03-20-1979	Hess	
	AB*	US-4,635,637	01-13-1987	Schreiber	
	AC*	US-5,464,426	11-07-1995	Bonutti	
	AD*	US-4,724,840	02-16-1988	McVay et al.	
	AE*	US-5,395,030	03-07-1995	Kuramoto et al.	
	AF*	US-5,855,311	01-05-1999	Hamblin et al.	
	AG*	US-5,887,594	03-30-1999	LoCicero, III	
	AH*	US-6,663,639	12-16-2003	Laufer et al.	
	AI*	US-6,835,200	12-28-2004	Laufer et al.	
	AJ*	US-6,558,400	05-06-2003	Deem et al.	
	AK*	US-20040082963-A1	04-29-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	AL*	US-6,454,778	09-24-2002	Kortenbach	
	AM*	US-6,540,789	04-01-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AN*	US-20040059350-A1	03-25-2004	Gordon et al.	
	AO*	US-4,841,888	06-27-1989	Mills et al.	
	AP*	US-2004006351-A1	01-08-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	AQ*	US-5,080,663	01-14-1992	Mills et al.	
	AR*	US-5,810,855	09-22-1998	Rayburn et al.	
	AS*	US-20030195387-A1	10-16-2003	Kortenbach et al.	

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T*
		Country Code ³ -Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
	BB**	EP-0593920	04-27-1994	United States Surgical Corp		
	BC**	EP-0480428	04-15-1992	Wilson Cook Medical Inc		
	BD**	EP-0576265	12-29-1993	Ethicon Inc		
	BE	EP-9688058	08-23-1995	Novoste Corp		
	BF	EP-0743044	11-20-1996	Bard Inc C R		

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	AT*	US-5,433,721	07-18-1995	Hooven et al.	
	AU*	US-6,352,503	03-05-2002	Matsui et al.	
	AV*	US-6,569,085-A1	05-27-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AW*	US-6,743,240-A1	06-01-2004	Smith et al.	
	AX*	US-4,809,695	03-07-1989	Gwathmey et al.	
	AY*	US-5,662,683	09-02-1997	Kay	
	AZ*	US-4,741,336	05-03-1988	Faila et al.	
	AA1*	US-20030191478-A1	10-09-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AB1*	US-20020138086-A1	09-26-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AC1*	US-20020198541-A1	12-26-2002	Smith et al.	
	AD1*	US-5,037,021	08-06-1991	Mills et al.	
	AE1*	US-5,571,116	11-05-1996	Bolanos et al.	
	AF1*	US-5,897,562	04-27-1999	Bolanos et al.	
	AG1*	US-6,113,609	09-05-2000	Adams	
	AH1*	US-5,571,090	11-05-1996	Sherts	
	AI1*	US-6,221,084	04-24-2001	Fleenor	
	AJ1*	US-20030167062	09-04-2003	Gambale et al.	
	AK1*	US-6,179,840	01-30-2001	Bowman	
	AL1*	US-6,945,979	09-20-2005	Kortenbach et al.	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BG	EP-0975263	02-02-2000	Bard Inc C R et al.		
	BH**	FR-2768324	03-19-1999	Seguin Jacques		
	BI	GB-2075829	11-25-1981	Watson & Ewen Ltd		
	BJ	JP-61122852	06-10-1986	Univ Karetsuji Rondon		
	BK**	WO-8911827	12-14-1989	Nierman David M		
	BL	WO-9900059	01-07-1999	Univ Columbia et al.		

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
	AM1*	US-6,843,794		01-18-2005	Sixto, Jr. et al.	
	AN1*	US-6,824,548		11-30-2004	Smith et al.	
	AO1*	US-6,716,226		04-06-2004	Sixto, Jr. et al.	
	AP1*	US-20020078967		06-27-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AQ1*	US-20020068945		06-06-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AR1*	US-4,649,938		03-17-1987	McArthur	
	AS1*	US-5,324,325		06-28-1994	Moaddeb	
	AT1*	US-20010049537		12-06-2001	Kortenbach	
	AU1*	US-6,086,603		07-11-2000	Termin et al.	
	AV1*	US-3,551,987		01-05-1971		
	AW1*	US-4,500,024		02-19-1985	DiGiovanni et al.	
	AX1*	US-5,558,665		09-24-1996	Kieturakis	
	AY1*	US-5,826,776		10-27-1998	Schulze et al.	
	AZ1*	US-5,901,895		05-11-1999	Heaton et al.	
	AA2*	US-7,066,944		06-27-2006	Laufer et al.	
	AB2*	US-5,088,979		02-18-1992	Filipi et al.	
	AC2*	US-5,465,894		11-14-1995	Clark et al.	
	AD2*	US-5,787,897		08-04-1998	Kieturakis	
	AE2*	US-6,086,600		07-11-2000	Kortenbach	

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	BM**	WO	9922849	05-14-1999	Symbiosis Corp et al.	
	BN**	WO	9960931	12-02-1999	Boston Scient Ltd	
	BO**	WO	0035529	06-22-2000	Syntheon Lic	
	BP**	WO	0078227	12-28-2000	Ndo Surgical Inc et al.	
	BQ**	WO	0078229	12-28-2000	Ndo Medical Inc et al.	
	BR	WO	01085034	11-15-2001	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al.	

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Sheet	4	of	22	Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
	AF2*	US-6,159,146		12-12-2000	El Gazayerli	
	AG2*	US-1,343,289		06-15-1920	Suchy	
	AH2*	US-1,548,250		08-04-1925	Bobner	
	AI2*	US-2,104,885		01-11-1938	robbins	
	AJ2*	US-2,199,025		04-30-1940	Conn	
	AK2*	US-3,399,432		09-03-1968	Merser	
	AL2*	US-3,470,875		10-07-1969	Johnson	
	AM2*	US-3,636,594		01-25-1972	Favre et al.	
	AN2*	US-3,638,653		02-01-1972	Berry	
	AO2*	US-3,734,375		05-22-1973	Bone et al.	
	AP2*	US-3,749,085		07-31-1973	Willson et al.	
	AQ2*	US-3,842,840		10-22-1974	Schweizer	
	AR2*	US-3,875,648		04-08-1975	Bone	
	AS2*	US-3,900,925		08-26-1975	La Torraca	
	AT2*	US-3,901,244		08-26-1975	Schweizer	
	AU2*	US-3,933,291		01-20-1976	Stephenson	
	AV2*	US-3,946,740		03-30-1976	Bassett	
	AW2*	US-4,006,747		02-08-1977	Kronenthal et al.	
	AX2*	US-4,164,225		08-14-1979	Johnson et al.	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ² (if known)				
	BS**	WO-0224080	03-28-2002	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al.		
	BT	WO-0228289	04-11-2002	Scimed Life Systems Inc		
	BU**	WO-0240081	05-23-2002	Syntheon Lic et al.		
	BV**	WO-0245603	06-13-2002	Syntheon Lic		
	BW	WO-0276541	10-03-2002	Curon Medical Inc		
	BX**	WO-0294341	11-28-2002	Syntheon Lic		

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	AY2*	US-4,229,930	10-28-1980	Ostermaier		
	AZ2*	US-4,448,194	05-15-1984	DiGiovanni et al.		
	AA3*	US-4,471,781	09-18-1984	Di Giovanni et al.		
	AB3*	US-4,506,670	03-26-1985	Crossley		
	AC3*	US-4,573,469	03-04-1986	Golden et al.		
	AD3*	US-4,585,153	04-29-1986	Failla et al.		
	AE3*	US-4,591,085	05-27-1986	Di Giovanni		
	AF3*	US-4,605,004	08-12-1986	Di Giovanni et al.		
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	AJ3*	US-4,696,300	09-29-1987	Anderson		
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	AL3*	US-4,736,746	04-12-1988	Anderson		
	AM3*	US-4,753,469	06-28-1988	Hiscott et al.		
	AN3*	US-4,862,359	08-29-1989	Trivedi et al.		
	AO3*	US-4,887,612	12-19-1989	Esser et al.		
	AP3*	US-4,890,615	01-02-1990	Caspari et al.		
	AQ3*	US-4,935,027	06-19-1990	Yoon		

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	BY**	WO-03000115	01-03-2003	Syntheon Llc		
	BZ**	WO-03004087	01-16-2003	Syntheon Llc		
	BA1**	WO-03007796	01-30-2003	Ndo Surgical Inc et al.		
	BB1**	WO-03015604	02-27-2003	Syntheon Llc et al.		
	BC1	WO-03030782	04-17-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al.		
	BD1	WO-03035649	05-01-2003	Pfizer Pharma et al.		

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	AR3*	US-5,015,249	05-14-1991	Nakao et al.	
	AS3*	US-5,037,433	08-06-1991	Wilks et al.	
	AT3*	US-5,147,373	09-15-1992	Ferzli	
	AU3*	US-5,222,963	06-29-1993	Brinkerhoff et al.	
	AV3*	US-5,230,344	07-27-1993	Ozdamar et al.	
	AW3*	US-5,254,126	10-19-1993	Filipi et al.	
	AX3*	US-5,309,923	05-10-1994	Leuchter et al.	
	AY3*	US-5,331,969	07-26-1994	Silberstein	
	AZ3*	US-5,336,263	08-09-1994	Ersek et al.	
	AA4*	US-5,346,504	09-13-1994	Ortiz et al.	
	AB4*	US-5,354,311	10-11-1994	Kambin et al.	
	AC4*	US-5,356,416	10-18-1994	Chu et al.	
	AD4*	US-5,358,508	10-25-1994	Cobb et al.	
	AE4*	US-5,364,408	11-15-1994	Gordon	
	AF4*	US-5,383,260	01-24-1995	Deschenes et al.	
	AG4*	US-5,441,507	08-15-1995	Wilk	
	AH4*	US-5,447,512	09-05-1995	Wilson et al.	
	AI4*	US-5,451,406	09-19-1995	Lawin et al.	
	AJ4*	US-5,486,189	01-23-1996	Mudry et al.	

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	BE1	WO-03037256	05-08-2003	Young Charles W		
	BF1	WO-03053253	07-03-2003	Rex Medical Lp		
	BG1	WO-03072196	09-04-2003	Carbon Medical Technologies In		
	BH1**	WO-030804	10-09-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al		
	BI1**	WO-03090633	11-06-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc		
	BJ1**	WO-03092498	11-13-2003	Medigus Ltd et al		

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	AK4*	US-5,496,331		03-05-1996	Xu et al.	
	AL4*	US-5,522,820		06-04-1996	Caspari et al.	
	AM4*	US-5,549,618		08-27-1996	Fleenor et al.	
	AN4*	US-5,573,496		11-12-1996	McPherson et al.	
	AO4*	US-5,624,453		04-29-1997	Ahmed	
	AP4*	US-5,626,613		05-06-1997	Schmieding	
	AQ4*	US-5,645,552		07-08-1997	Sherfs	
	AR4*	US-5,665,096		09-09-1997	Yoon	
	AS4*	US-5,671,507		09-30-1997	Deschenes et al.	
	AT4*	US-5,674,230		10-07-1997	Tovey et al.	
	AU4*	US-5,676,674		10-14-1997	Bolanos et al.	
	AV4*	US-5,697,940		12-16-1997	Chu et al.	
	AW4*	US-5,699,808		12-23-1997	John	
	AX4*	US-5,722,421		03-03-1998	Francese et al.	
	AY4*	US-5,725,524		03-10-1998	Mulier et al.	
	AZ4*	US-5,728,109		03-17-1998	Schulze et al.	
	AA5*	US-5,735,861		04-07-1998	Peifer et al.	
	AB5*	US-5,741,280		04-21-1998	Fleenor	
	AC5*	US-5,749,898		05-12-1998	Schulze et al.	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ² -Kind Code ² (if known)					
	BK1**	WO-03092509		11-13-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc		
	BL1**	WO-03094800		11-20-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc		
	BM1**	WO-03098885		11-27-2003	Nippon Electric Co et al.		
	BN1**	WO-03099137		12-04-2003	Ndo Surgical Inc et al.		
	BO1**	WO-03099139		12-04-2003	Id Lic		
	BP1**	WO-03099140		12-04-2003	Esophyx Inc et al.		

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/828,469-Conf. #5223
				Filing Date	April 21, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Michael D. Laufer
				Art Unit	3773
				Examiner Name	J. W. Woo
Sheet	8	of	22	Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

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	AD5*	US-5,788,138	08-04-1998	Deschenes et al.		
	AE5*	US-5,792,153	08-11-1998	Swain et al.		
	AF5*	US-5,792,478	08-11-1998	Lawin et al.		
	AG5*	US-5,794,948	08-18-1998	Schmitt et al.		
	AH5*	US-5,797,927	08-25-1998	Yoon		
	AI5*	US-5,810,882	09-22-1998	Bolduc et al.		
	AJ5*	US-5,814,054	09-29-1998	Kortenbach et al.		
	AK5*	US-5,846,254	12-08-1998	Schulze et al.		
	AL5*	US-5,853,409	12-29-1998	Swanson et al.		
	AM5*	US-5,893,592	04-13-1999	Schulze et al.		
	AN5*	US-5,899,915	05-04-1999	Saadat		
	AO5*	US-5,958,444	09-28-1999	Wallace et al.		
	AP5*	US-5,984,932	11-16-1999	Yoon		
	AQ5*	US-5,993,466	11-30-1999	Yoon		
	AR5*	US-6,009,877	01-04-2000	Edwards		
	AS5*	US-6,051,003	04-18-2000	Chu et al.		
	AT5*	US-6,059,798	05-09-2000	Tolkoff		
	AU5*	US-6,067,990	05-30-2000	Kieturakis		
	AV5*	US-6,083,202	07-04-2000	Smith		

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	BQ1**	WO-03099376	12-04-2003	Transneurionix Inc et al.		✓
	BR1**	WO-03105917	12-24-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc		✓
	BS1	WO-04004542	01-15-2004	Satiety Inc et al.		✓
	BT1	WO-04004544	01-15-2004	Foundry Inc		✓
	BU1	WO-04006990	01-22-2004	Scimed Life Systems Inc		✓
	BV1	WO-04019787	03-11-2004	Scimed Life Systems Inc		✓

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Sheet	9	of	22	Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

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	AW5*	US-6,098,629	08-08-2000	Johnson et al.	
	AX5*	US-6,129,761	10-10-2000	Hubbell	
	AY5*	US-6,152,935	11-28-2000	Kammerer et al.	
	AZ5*	US-6,238,335	05-29-2001	Silverman et al.	
	AA6*	US-6,254,642	07-03-2001	Taylor	
	AB6*	US-6,258,064	07-10-2001	Smith et al.	
	AC6*	US-6,267,285	07-31-2001	Raymond et al.	
	AD6*	US-6,325,503	12-04-2001	McCue, Jr. et al.	
	AE6*	US-6,387,104	05-14-2002	Pugsley, Jr. et al.	
	AF6*	US-6,478,210	11-12-2002	Adams et al.	
	AG6*	US-6,551,315	04-22-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AH6*	US-6,544,291	04-08-2003	Taylor	
	AI6*	US-6,544,503	04-08-2003	Vanderhoff et al.	
	AJ6*	US-6,547,776	04-15-2003	Gaiser et al.	
	AK6*	US-6,548,501	04-15-2003	Hakkinen	
	AL6*	US-6,548,518	04-15-2003	Rubin et al.	
	AM6*	US-6,551,328	04-22-2003	Kortenbach	
	AN6*	US-6,552,045	04-22-2003	Rubin et al.	
	AO6*	US-6,552,046	04-22-2003	Druzgala et al.	

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	BW1	WO-04019788	03-11-2004	Scimed Life Systems Inc		✓
	BX1	WO-04021872	03-18-2004	Bard Inc C R		✓
	BY1	WO-04021873	03-18-2004	Bard Inc C R		✓
	BZ1	WO-04021894	03-18-2004	Kelleher Brian		✓
	BA2	WO-04026348	04-01-2004	Sixto Robert Jr et al.		✓
	BB2	WO-04026349	04-01-2004	Smith Kevin W et al.		✓

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Sheet	10	of	22	Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

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	AP6*	US-6,552,047		04-22-2003	Garvey et al.	
	AQ6*	US-6,558,429		05-06-2003	Taylor	
	AR6*	US-6,559,165		05-06-2003	Rubin et al.	
	AS6*	US-6,562,034		05-13-2003	Edwards et al.	
	AT6*	US-6,562,795		05-13-2003	Ashley et al.	
	AU6*	US-6,569,105		05-27-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AV6*	US-6,579,301		06-17-2003	Bales et al.	
	AW6*	US-6,589,238		07-08-2003	Edwards et al.	
	AX6*	US-6,591,137		07-08-2003	Fischell et al.	
	AY6*	US-6,591,838		07-15-2003	Durgin	
	AZ6*	US-6,592,596		07-15-2003	Geitz	
	AA7*	US-6,592,609		07-15-2003	Bonutti	
	AB7*	US-6,595,909		07-22-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AC7*	US-6,595,910		07-22-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AD7*	US-6,604,004		08-05-2003	Zelickson et al.	
	AE7*	US-6,604,528		08-12-2003	Duncan	
	AF7*	US-6,605,078		08-12-2003	Adams	
	AG7*	US-6,613,047		09-02-2003	Edwards	
	AH7*	US-6,632,227		10-14-2003	Adams	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ² -Kind Code ² (if known)		MM-DD-YYYY			
	BC1**	EP-0646356		04-05-1995	Ethicon Inc		
	BC2	WO-04026350		04-01-2004	Kortenbach Juergen A et al.		✓
	BD2**	WO-05086885		09-22-2005	Laufer Michael D et al.		
	BE2	WO-9803151		01-29-1998	Einhorn Apotheke et al.		
	BF2	JP-1151461		06-14-1989	Koransha Kk		
	BG2	WO-02094341		11-28-2002	Syntheon Llc		
	BH2**	WO-04000129		12-31-2003	Scimed Life Systems Inc et al.		

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				Examiner Name	J. W. Woo
Sheet	11	of	22	Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

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		Number-Kind Document ² (if known)			
	AI7*	US-6,645,201	11-11-2003	Uitley et al.	
	AJ7*	US-6,660,301	12-09-2003	Vogel et al.	
	AK7*	US-6,666,848	12-23-2003	Stone	
	AL7*	US-6,669,713	12-30-2003	Adams	
	AM7*	US-6,673,058	01-06-2004	Snow	
	AN7*	US-6,673,070	01-06-2004	Edwards et al.	
	AO7*	US-6,692,507	02-17-2004	Pugsley et al.	
	AP7*	US-6,695,764	02-24-2004	Silverman et al.	
	AQ7*	US-6,699,243	03-02-2004	West et al.	
	AR7*	US-6,712,074	03-30-2004	Edwards et al.	
	AS7*	US-6,712,814	03-30-2004	Edwards et al.	
	AT7*	US-6,725,866	04-27-2004	Johnson et al.	
	AU7*	US-6,790,214	09-14-2004	Kraemer et al.	
	AV7*	US-6,790,237	09-14-2004	Stinson	
	AW7*	US-6,808,491	10-26-2004	Kortenbach et al.	
	AX7*	US-6,916,332	07-12-2005	Adams	
	AY7*	US-6,926,722	08-09-2005	Geitz	
	AZ7*	US-6,971,395	12-06-2005	Edwards et al.	
	AA8*	US-6,986,737	01-17-2006	Suzuki et al.	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BI2	WO-02076541	10-03-2002	Curon Medical Inc		

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		Examiner Name	J. W. Woo
		Attorney Docket Number	100873-273
Sheet	12	of	22

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	AB8*	US-7,033,370	04-25-2006	Gordon et al.	
	AC8*	US-7,087,073	08-08-2006	Bonutti	
	AD8*	US-20010056282	12-27-2001	Sonnenschein et al.	
	AE8*	US-20020010418	01-24-2002	Lary et al.	
	AF8*	US-20020063143	05-30-2002	Adams et al.	
	AG8*	US-20020082621	06-27-2002	Schurr et al.	
	AH8*	US-20020173786	11-21-2002	Kortenbach et al.	
	AI8*	US-20020193816	12-19-2002	Laufer et al.	
	AJ8*	US-20020198537	12-26-2002	Smith et al.	
	AK8*	US-20020198538	12-26-2002	Kortenbach et al.	
	AL8*	US-20020198539	12-26-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AM8*	US-20020198540	12-26-2002	Smith et al.	
	AN8*	US-20020198549	12-26-2002	Sixto et al.	
	AO8*	US-20030019905	01-30-2003	Adams et al.	
	AP8*	US-20030036679	02-20-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AQ8*	US-20030065340	04-03-2003	Geitz	
	AR8*	US-20030065359	04-03-2003	Weller et al.	
	AS8*	US-20030068326	04-10-2003	Gavas et al.	
	AT8*	US-20030069280	04-10-2003	Koch et al.	

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Sheet	13	of	22
		Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

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	AU8*	US-20030069646	04-10-2003	Stinson	
	AV8*	US-20030083241	05-01-2003	Young	
	AW8*	US-20030086968	05-08-2003	Gray	
	AX8*	US-20030092699	05-15-2003	Uchida et al.	
	AY8*	US-20030130560	07-10-2003	Suzuki et al.	
	AZ8*	US-20030130561	07-10-2003	Suzuki et al.	
	AA9*	US-20030135206	07-17-2003	Edwards et al.	
	AB9*	US-20030161887	08-28-2003	Klein	
	AC9*	US-20030163029	08-28-2003	Sonnenschein et al.	
	AD9*	US-20030171645	09-11-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AE9*	US-20030181929	09-25-2003	Geitz	
	AF9*	US-20030188755	10-09-2003	Milbocker	
	AG9*	US-20030192558	10-16-2003	Durgin	
	AH9*	US-20030192559	10-16-2003	Durgin	
	AI9*	US-20030195509	10-16-2003	Edwards et al.	
	AJ9*	US-20030196670	10-23-2003	Durgin	
	AK9*	US-20030199731	10-23-2003	Silverman et al.	
	AL9*	US-20030208209	11-06-2003	Gambale et al.	
	AM9*	US-20030208211	11-06-2003	Kortenbach	

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			Attorney Docket Number	100873-273
Sheet	14	of	22	

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	AN9*	US-20030216754	11-20-2003	Kraemer et al.	
	AO9*	US-20030220657	11-27-2003	Adams	
	AP9*	US-20030220660	11-27-2003	Kortenbach et al.	
	AO9*	US-20030236535	12-25-2003	Onuki et al.	
	AR9*	US-20030236536	12-25-2003	Grigoryants et al.	
	AS9*	US-20040006336	01-08-2004	Swanson	
	AT9*	US-20040010245	01-15-2004	Cerier et al.	
	AU9*	US-20040037887	02-26-2004	Bourne et al.	
	AV9*	US-20040044364	03-04-2004	DeVries et al.	
	AW9*	US-20040082859	04-29-2004	Schaer	
	AX9*	US-20040082950	04-29-2004	Edwards et al.	
	AY9*	US-6,461,366	10-08-2002	Seguin	
	AZ9*	US-6,315,184	11-13-2001	Whitman	
	AAA*	US-6,443,973	09-03-2002	Whitman	
	ABA*	US-6,716,233	04-06-2004	Whitman	
	ACA*	US-6,793,652	09-21-2004	Whitman et al.	
	ADA*	US-6,846,307-A1	01-25-2005	Whitman et al.	
	AEA*	US-6,846,308-A1	01-25-2005	Whitman et al.	
	AFA*	US-6,846,309-A1	01-25-2005	Whitman et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/828,469-Conf. #5223
Filing Date	April 21, 2004
First Named Inventor	Michael D. Laufer
Art Unit	3773
Examiner Name	J. W. Woo
Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

Sheet	15	of	22
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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			Filing Date	April 21, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	Michael D. Laufer	
			Art Unit	3773	
			Examiner Name	J. W. Woo	
Sheet	16	of	22	Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	European Search Report dated September 2, 2004 in EP 04076389	
	CB**	International Search Report dated October 16, 2000	
	CC**	International Search Report dated October 22, 2003	
	CD**	Boerema MD 'Hiatus Hernia: Repair by right-sided, subhepatic, anterior gastropexy' Surgery, 65:884-893 (1969)	
	CE**	Carvalho PJPC et al 'Fibrosis of gastric cardia after endoscopic sclerosis. Mechanism for control of experimental reflux? Am Surg Mar. 1990; 56(3):163-6	
	CF**	DeMeester, MD et al 'Nissen Fundoplication for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease' Annals of Surgery 204:9-20 (1986)	
	CG**	Hill et al 'Surgery for Peptic Esophageal Stricture' 139-147.	
	CH**	Hill et al 'The Esophagus, Medical and Surgical Management' WB Saunders Co. 135-8 (1988)	
	CI**	Hill LD 'Myths of the esophagus' J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg July (1989)98(1):1-10.	
	CJ**	Hill MD 'An Effective Operation for Hiatal Hernia: An Eight Year Appraisal' Annals of Surgery (1967) 166:681-692.	

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Sheet	17	of	22		

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	CK**	Kraemer, MD et al 'Laparoscopic Hill repair' Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, Vol. 40 No. 2 155-159 (1994)		
	CL**	Mason et al 'Nissen Fundoplication Prevents Shortening of the Sphincter During Gastric Distention' ARCH SURG., 132:719-726 (1997)		
	CM**	Skinner et al 'Surgical management of esophageal reflux and hiatus hernia' Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (1967) Vol. 53, No. 1 pp. 33-54.		
	CN**	Starling et al 'Assessment of the Angelchik Prosthesis for Treatment of Symptomatic Esophageal Reflux' World J. Surg. 11, 350-355 (1987)		
	CO**	Slim K et al., Intraoperative esophageal manometry and fundoplications: prospective study, World J Surg Jan. 1996;20(1):55-9.		
	CP**	Kahrilas, "Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease," JAMA, 276:983-988 (1996).		
	CQ**	Little, M.D., "Mechanisms of Action of Antireflux Surgery: Theory and Fact," World Journal of Surgery, 16:320-325 (1992).		
	CR**	McKernan, "Laparoscopic repair of gastroesophageal reflux disease," Surgical Endoscopy, 8:851-856 (1994).		
	CS**	Falk, et al., "Laparoscopic Fundoplication: A preliminary report of the technique and postoperative care," Aust. N.Z. J. Surgery, 62:969-972 (1992).		
	CT**	Kadirkamanathan SS et al., An ambulant porcine model of acid reflux used to evaluate endoscopic gastroplasty. Gut Jun. 1999;44(6):782-8.		

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO <h2 style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>			Complete if Known Application Number 10/828,469-Conf. #5223 Filing Date April 21, 2004 First Named Inventor Michael D. Laufer Art Unit 3773 Examiner Name J. W. Woo Attorney Docket Number 100873-273	
Sheet	18	of	22	

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	CU**	Mason RJ et al., A new intraluminal antigastroesophageal reflux procedure in baboons. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> 1997 Mar.;45(3):283-90..	
	CV**	Hill LD et al., The gastroesophageal flap valve: in vitro and vivo observations. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> 1996 Nov.;44(5):541-7..	
	CW**	Cuschieri, et al., "Multicenter prospective evaluation of laparoscopic antireflux surgery," <i>Surgical Endoscopy</i> , 7:505-510 (1993)..	
	CX**	Hill LD, Intraoperative measurement of lower esophageal sphincter pressure. <i>J. Thorac Cardiovasc Surg</i> 1978 Mar.;75(3):378-82..	
	CY**	Ismail T. et al., Yield pressure, anatomy of the cardia and gastro-oesophageal reflux. <i>Br. J Surg</i> 1995 Jul.;82(7):943-7..	
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	CA1**	<i>Digestive Disease Week, Orange County Convention Center, p. A-802; 314.</i>	
	CB1**	Contractor QQ et al., Endoscopic esophagitis and gastroesophageal flap valve. <i>J Clin Gastroenterol</i> Apr. 1999; 28 (3):233-7.	
	CC1**	Ceconello, "Esophagogastric Anastomosis with Valvuloplasty: An Experimental Study," <i>International Surgery</i> , 67:121-124 (1982).	
	CD1**	Collis, M.D., "An Operation for Hiatus Hernia with Short Esophagus," <i>The Journal of Thoracic Surgery</i> , 34:768-778 (1957).	

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				Art Unit	3773
				Examiner Name	J. W. Woo
				Attorney Docket Number	100873-273
Sheet	19	of	22		

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	CF1**	Collis, M.D., "Surgical Control of Reflux in Hiatus Hernia," <u>The American Journal of Surgery</u> , 115:465-471 (1968).	
	CG1**	Donahue PE et al., Endoscopic sclerosis of the gastric cardia for prevention of experimental gastroesophageal reflux, <u>Gastrointest. Endosc.</u> 1990 May-Jun. 36(3):253-6.	
	CH1**	Hill LD and Kozarek RA, The gastroesophageal flap valve, <u>J. Clin. Gastroenterol</u> 1999 Apr. 28(3): 194-7.	
	CI1**	Hill LD et al., Antireflux surgery. A surgeon's look, <u>Gastroenterol Clin. North Am.</u> , 1990 Sep. 19(3):745-75.	
	CJ1**	Hill LD, Myths of the esophagus, <u>J. Thorac Cardiovasc. Surg.</u> 1989 Jul. 9S(1):1-10.	
	CK1**	Hill, et al., "The Esophagus. Medical and Surgical Management," <u>WB Saunders Co.</u> , 135-8 (1988).	
	CL1**	Hinder, et al. "The Surgical Option for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease," Symposium on Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, <u>Am. J. Med.</u> 103:144S-148S (1997).	
	CM1**	Ismail, et al., "Yield Pressure: A New Concept in the Evaluation of Gerd?," <u>AJG</u> , 91:616-617 (1996).	
	CN1**	Jamieson, et al., "Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication," <u>Annals of Surgery</u> , 220:137-145 (1994).	
	CO1	European Search Report mailed July 10, 2007 in EP Application No. 07075291	

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Sheet	20	of	22	

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	CO1**	Jamieson, et al., "The development of surgery for gastro-oesophageal reflux disease." <u>Surgery of the Oesophagus</u> , 233-245 (1988).	
	CP1**	Janssen, et al., "Prospective randomized comparison of teres cardiopexy and Nissen fundoplication in the surgical therapy of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease." <u>Br. J. Surg.</u> , 80:875-878 (1993).	
	CQ1**	Jennings, et al., "A Novel Endoscopic Transgastric Fundoplication Procedure for Gastroesophageal Reflux: An Initial Animal Evaluation." <u>Journal of Laparoendoscopic Surgery</u> , 2:207-213 (1992).	
	CR1**	McGouran RC and Galloway JM, A laser-induced scar at the cardia increases the yield pressure of the lower esophageal sphincter, <u>Gastrointest. Endosc.</u> 1990 Sep.-Oct. 36(5):439-43.	
	CS1**	McGouran RC et al., Does measurement of yield pressure at the cardia during endoscopy provide information on the function of the lower oesophageal sphincter mechanism? <u>Gut</u> 1988 Mar. 29(3):275-8.	
	CT1**	Nathanson, et al., "Laparoscopic Ligamentum teres (round ligament) cardiopexy." <u>Br. J. Surg.</u> , 78:947-951 (1991).	
	CU1**	Nissen, "Eine einfache Operation zur Beeinflussung der Refluxoesophagitis," <u>Journal Suisse DeMedecine</u> , 590-592 (1956).	
	CV1**	O'Connor KW and Lehman GA, Endoscopic placement of collagen at the lower esophageal sphincter to inhibit gastroesophageal reflux: a pilot study of 10 medically intractable patients. <u>Gastrointest. Endosc.</u> 1988 Mar.-Apr. 34(2):106-12.	
	CW1**	O'Connor KW et al., An experimental endoscopic technique for reversing gastroesophageal reflux in dogs by injecting inert material in the distal esophagus. <u>Gastrointest. Endosc.</u> 1984 Oct. 30(5):275-80.	
	CX1**	O'Connor, et al., "Endoscopic placement of collagen at the lower esophageal sphincter to inhibit gastroesophageal reflux: a pilot study of 10 medically intractable patients." <u>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</u> , 34:106-112 (1988).	

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Attorney Docket Number				100873-273	
Sheet	21	of	22		

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	CY1**	Pedinielli, "Traitement Chirurgical de la Herinie Hiatale Par La Technique du Collet," <i>Ann. Chir.</i> , 18:1461-1474 (1964). (English Abstract)		
	CZ1**	Polk, et al., "Hiatal Hernia and Esophagitis: A survey of indications for operation and technic and results of fundoplication," <i>Ann. Surg.</i> , 173:775-781 (1971).		
	CA2**	Rampal, et al., "Technique Chirurgicale, Traitement des hernies hiatales et du reflux aesophagien par la cardio-pexie avec le ligament round de foie," <i>La Presse Medicale</i> , 75:617-619 (1967).		
	CB2**	Rich, "Simple GERD Treatment Offers New Alternative" (www.medicalpost.com website), March 1999.		
	CC2**	Rupp TH and Lehman GA, Endoscopic antireflux techniques. Endoluminal and laparoscopic. <i>Gastrointest. Endosc. Clin. N. Am.</i> 1994 Apr. 4(2):353-68.		
	CD2**	Shafik A., Intraesophageal Polytef injection for the treatment of reflux esophagitis. <i>Surg. Endosc.</i> 1996 Mar. 10(3):329-31.		
	CE2**	Singh et al., "Evaluation of the Endoscopic Suturing System in the Treatment of the GERD," Conference Abstract for Plenary Session for Digestive Disease Week, p. 314 & A-802, May 16-19, 1999.		
	CF2**	The Americal journal of gastroenterology, Vol. 91, No. 3, 1996, pg. 616-617.		
	CG2**	Thor KBA et al., Reappraisal of the flap valve mechanism in the gastroesophageal junction. A study of a new valvuloplasty procedure in cadavers. <i>Acta Chir Scand</i> 1987 Jan. 153(1):25-8.		
	CH2**	Tocornal, M.D., et al., "A mucosal flap valve mechanism to prevent gastroesophageal reflux and esophagitis, <i>Surgery</i> , 64:619-623 (1968).		

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Sheet	22	of	22	Attorney Docket Number	100873-273

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	C12**	Wang, et al., "A new anti-flux procedure: cardiac oblique invagination," <u>Chung Hua Wai Ko Tsa Chih</u> , Feb. 33 (2) 73-5 (1995). (English Abstract).	
	CJ2**	Watson, et al., "Comparison of anterior, posterior and total fundoplication using a viscera model," <u>Diseases of the Esophagus</u> , 10:110-114 (1997).	
	CK2**	Westbrook, et al., "Posterior Surgical Approaches to the Rectum," <u>Annals of Surgery</u> , 195:677-691 (1982).	
	CL2	European Search Report mailed July 10, 2007 in EP Application No. 07075291	
	CM2	02/20/09, Office Action for USSN 10/819,957	

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